

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

2004 Schumer College Tuition Survey

Over the last twenty years, the cost of a college education has skyrocketed in upstate New York and throughout the country at a rate of more than 2 ½ times the rate of inflation. As a result, parents and students struggling to make ends meet have incurred large debts to pay for school. According to the Center for American Progress, the average debt per college student upon graduation is up to \$17,000. The following report shows how local schools have increased their tuition over the last two decades. It compares the 1983-1984 school year to the tuition for the 2003-2004 school year and then illustrates what tuition should have been in 2003, had costs increased only according to inflation. The report finds that on average tuition at colleges and universities in upstate New York went from \$4,462 for the 1983-1984 school year to \$14,442 for the 2003-2004 school year. This means that tuition has shot up by 224%, compared to a Consumer Price Index inflation rate of only 84.7% over that period.

The following is a regional break down of Schumer's tuition analysis including the tuition histories of individual schools in every part of the State.

The Capital Region: Although inflation has only increased prices by 84.7% over the last 20 years, colleges and universities in the Capital Region have increased their tuition by an average of 240% from \$4,956 to \$16,830.

College or University	1983-1984 Tuition	2003-2004 Tuition	% Increase in Tuition over the last 20 years	2003-2004 tuition if tuition had only risen according to inflation
SUNY AT ALBANY	\$1,467	\$5,770	293%	\$2,710
RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE	\$9,382	\$28,496	204%	\$17,329
SIENA COLLEGE	\$5,114	\$18,095	254%	\$9,446
UNION COLLEGE	\$8,836	\$28,928	227%	\$16,320
SKIDMORE COLLEGE	\$8,968	\$29,630	230%	\$16,564
THE COLLEGE OF	\$4,890	\$15,242	212%	\$9,032

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SAINT ROSE				
SCHENECTADY COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$1,183	\$2,658	125%	\$2,185
RUSSELL SAGE COLLEGE	\$3,600	\$19,945	454%	\$6,649
HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$1,165	\$2,706	132%	\$2,152
The Capital Region Average	\$4,956	\$16,830	240%	\$9,154

The Hudson Valley: Although inflation has only increased prices by 84.7% over the last 20 years, colleges and universities in the Hudson Valley have increased their tuition by an average of 233% from \$4,934 to \$16,452.

College or University	1983-1984 Tuition	2003-2004 Tuition	% Increase in Tuition over the last 20 years	2003-2004 tuition if tuition had only risen according to inflation
ROCKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$1,166	\$2,750	136%	\$2,154
VASSAR COLLEGE	\$8,980	\$29,095	224%	\$16,586
DOMINICAN COLLEGE OF BLAUVELT	\$3,320	\$16,750	405%	\$6,132
BARD COLLEGE	\$10,240	\$28,808	181%	\$18,913
MOUNT SAINT MARY COLLEGE	\$4,420	\$14,290	223%	\$8,164
NYACK COLLEGE	\$4,386	\$14,400	228%	\$8,101
MERCY COLLEGE-MAIN CAMPUS	\$3,360	\$10,700	218%	\$6,206
SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE	\$3,600	\$14,820	312%	\$6,649
The Hudson Valley Average	\$4,934	\$16,452	233%	\$9,113

Westchester: Although inflation has only increased prices by 84.7% over the last 20 years, colleges

and universities in the Westchester area have increased their tuition by an average of 234% from \$4,918 to \$16,426.

College or University	1983-1984 Tuition	2003-2004 Tuition	% Increase in Tuition over the last 20 years	2003-2004 tuition if tuition had only risen according to inflation
SUNY COLLEGE AT PURCHASE	\$1,475	\$4,350	195%	\$2,724
CONCORDIA COLLEGE	\$4,390	\$17,640	302%	\$8,108
IONA COLLEGE	\$4,880	\$18,290	275%	\$9,013
MANHATTANVILLE COLLEGE	\$7,700	\$22,150	188%	\$14,222
MARYMOUNT MANHATTAN COLLEGE	\$4,890	\$16,292	233%	\$9,032
PACE UNIVERSITY-NEW YORK	\$5,020	\$21,104	320%	\$9,272
SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE	\$9,980	\$30,120	202%	\$18,433
SUNY WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$1,274	\$2,753	116%	\$2,353
BERKELEY COLLEGE	\$4,650	\$15,135	225%	\$8,589
Westchester Average	\$4,918	\$16,426	234%	\$9,083

Central New York: Although inflation has only increased prices by 84.7% over the last 20 years, colleges and universities in Central New York have increased their tuition by an average of 207% from \$4,484 to \$13,758.

College or University	1983-1984 Tuition	2003-2004 Tuition	% Increase in Tuition over the last 20 years	2003-2004 tuition if tuition had only risen according to inflation
CAZENOVIA COLLEGE	\$5,070	\$16,730	230%	\$9,364
LE MOYNE COLLEGE	\$5,275	\$18,950	259%	\$9,743
MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE-UTICA	\$1,235	\$3,034	146%	\$2,281
ONONDAGA	\$1,050	\$2,950	171%	\$1,923

COMMUNITY COLLEGE				
COLGATE UNIVERSITY	\$9,155	\$29,940	227%	\$16,909
SUNY COLLEGE AT CORTLAND	\$1,471	\$4,350	196%	\$2,717
SUNY COLLEGE AT OSWEGO	\$1,460	\$5,176	255%	\$2,697
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY	\$7,339	\$25,142	243%	\$13,555
WELLS COLLEGE	\$8,145	\$14,292	75%	\$15,044
Central New York Average	\$4,484	\$13,758	207%	\$8,282

North Country: Although inflation has only increased prices by 84.7% over the last 20 years, colleges and universities in the North Country have increased their tuition by an average of 216% from \$5,683 to \$17,937.

College or University	1983-1984 Tuition	2003-2004 Tuition	% Increase in Tuition over the last 20 years	2003-2004 tuition if tuition had only risen according to inflation
JEFFERSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$1,298	\$2,806	116%	\$2,397
HAMILTON COLLEGE	\$9,300	\$30,000	223%	\$17,177
ST LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY	\$8,460	\$28,190	233%	\$15,626
SUNY-POTSDAM	\$1,465	\$5,190	254%	\$2,706
CLARKSON UNIVERSITY	\$7,890	\$23,500	198%	\$14,573
The North Country Average	\$5,683	\$17,937	216%	\$10,496

Southern Tier: Although inflation has only increased prices by 84.7% over the last 20 years, colleges and universities in the Southern Tier have increased their tuition by an average of 237% from \$3,969 to \$13,384.

College or University	1983-1984 Tuition	2003-2004 Tuition	% Increase in Tuition over the last 20 years	2003-2004 tuition if tuition had only risen according to inflation
CORNELL UNIVERSITY-ENDOWED COLLEGES	\$9,600	\$28,754	200%	\$17,731
ITHACA COLLEGE	\$6,562	\$22,264	239%	\$12,120
SUNY AT BINGHAMTON	\$1,498	\$5,687	280%	\$2,767
BROOME COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$1,013	\$2,797	176%	\$1,871
ELMIRA COLLEGE	\$6,440	\$25,740	300%	\$11,895
SUNY COLLEGE AT ONEONTA	\$1,460	\$5,268	261%	\$2,697
TOMPKINS-CORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$1,213	\$3,180	162%	\$2,240
The Southern Tier Average	\$3,969	\$13,384	237%	\$7,332

Western New York: Although inflation has only increased prices by 84.7% over the last 20 years, colleges and universities in Western New York have increased their tuition by an average of 205% from \$3,538 to \$10,789.

College or University	1983-1984 Tuition	2003-2004 Tuition	% Increase in Tuition over the last 20 years	2003-2004 tuition if tuition had only risen according to inflation
CANISIUS COLLEGE	\$5,140	\$20,193	293%	\$9,494
D'YOUVILLE COLLEGE	\$4,620	\$13,920	201%	\$8,533
ERIE COMMUNITY COLLEGE CITY	\$960	\$2,940	206%	\$1,773
MEDAILLE COLLEGE	\$4,140	\$13,660	230%	\$7,647

SUNY COLLEGE AT BUFFALO	\$1,453	\$5,059	248%	\$2,684
SUNY AT BUFFALO	\$1,591	\$5,861	268%	\$2,939
TROCAIRE COLLEGE	\$2,950	\$9,610	226%	\$5,449
VILLA MARIA COLLEGE BUFFALO	\$2,905	\$10,010	245%	\$5,366
WELLS COLLEGE	\$8,145	\$14,292	75%	\$15,044
DAEMEN COLLEGE	\$5,180	\$15,120	192%	\$9,567
ERIE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SOUTH	\$960	\$2,940	206%	\$1,773
NIAGARA UNIVERSITY	\$5,400	\$17,380	222%	\$9,974
NIAGARA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$1,100	\$2,870	161%	\$2,032
SAINT BONAVENTURE UNIVERSITY	\$4,990	\$17,190	244%	\$9,217
Western New York Average	\$3,538	\$10,789	205%	\$6,535

Rochester/ Finger Lakes: Although inflation has only increased prices by 84.7% over the last 20 years, colleges and universities in the Rochester/ Finger Lakes region have increased their tuition by an average of 222% from \$4,272 to \$13,761.

College or University	1983-1984 Tuition	2003-2004 Tuition	% Increase in Tuition over the last 20 years	2003-2004 tuition if tuition had only risen according to inflation
MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$1,222	\$2,755	125%	\$2,257
NAZARETH COLLEGE OF ROCHESTER	\$4,985	\$17,536	252%	\$9,207
ROBERTS WESLEYAN COLLEGE	\$5,022	\$16,990	238%	\$9,276
ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	\$6,375	\$21,384	235%	\$11,775
SAINT JOHN FISHER COLLEGE	\$5,325	\$17,750	233%	\$9,835
UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER	\$8,478	\$27,628	226%	\$15,659
GENESEE	\$1,071	\$3,180	197%	\$1,978

COMMUNITY COLLEGE				
SUNY COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT	\$1,475	\$4,350	195%	\$2,724
SUNY COLLEGE AT GENESEO	\$1,475	\$5,390	265%	\$2,724
FINGER LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$1,334	\$2,930	120%	\$2,464
KEUKA COLLEGE	\$5,670	\$16,285	187%	\$10,472
HOBART WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES	\$8,835	\$28,948	228%	\$16,318
Rochester/ Finger Lakes Average	\$4,272	\$13,761	222%	\$7,891

Source: Schumer estimates based on data from the National Center for Education Statistics at the U.S. Department of Education.